



APPROVED 1-13-04
KING COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2003

EXCHANGE BUILDING, CONFERENCE ROOM 6A

Members Present: Joshua Freed (awaiting Council confirmation), Jack Fuller, Helen Nilon, Jim Nobles, Eleanor Owen, Ron Sterling, Gwendolyn Williams

Members Absent: Howard Miller (leave of absence), Shauna Cheney (leave of absence), Freda Monroe (unexcused), Clifford Thurston (leave of absence)

Guests Present: Linda Brown (KCASAAB), Melody Cecilia James (board applicant), Frank Jose (NAMI-Greater Seattle), Lillian Meier (private citizen), Pam Pratt (board applicant)

Staff Present: Steve Collins, Shelle Crosby, Geoff Miller, Rhoda Naguit, Jean Robertson

I. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

In lieu of Board Chair Howard Miller, who was recuperating from a heart surgery, Vice Chair Ron Sterling convened the meeting at 4:30 p.m and asked everyone to introduce him/herself.

II. MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the October 14, 2003 board meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A. Board Membership Update

Ron stated that since the board's role has changed from an administrative to an advisory board in 1992, excluding persons who are employed by a provider agency from membership is an outdated conflict of interest concern. He cited the case of Shauna Cheney, a County Council confirmed board member, who desires to stay on the board but was not sure if she would be allowed to continue to serve due to her current employment with the Crisis Clinic. Pursuant to KCMHAB bylaws, Shauna can continue to serve on the board as long as she informs the board concerning discussions that may be seen as a conflict of interest for her and that she refrain from voting on such matters.

Mindy Meyring tendered her resignation from the board last month. Debra Roszkowski also sent an email to Rhoda Naguit informing her of her decision to resign from the board due to her work schedule. Freda Monroe has not been heard from for many months after repeated attempts to contact her by e-mail, regular mail, and by telephone.

B. Legislative Forum Update

The following observations were made about the November 18, 2003 Legislative Forum:

- Low turnout partly due to inclement weather that day.
- Repetitious discussion from legislators.
- Legislators stayed throughout the event.
- Legislators should have been seated on the stage as planned by the Legislative Advocacy and Public Affairs Committee.
- People who were not scheduled to speak spoke.
- People who spoke spoke for too long.
- Failure to observe time. The forum did not start on time and end on time. There was a suggestion to have a time management person for future forum.

Linda Brown thanked Geoff Miller and Sherry Hamilton for all their efforts in putting this event together.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislative Advocacy & Public Affairs Committee

In addition to the above report, Eleanor stated that she was disappointed that the overall thrust of the forum structure was not strictly followed. However, she commended Linda Brown and Roger Goodman of the King County Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Administrative Board for doing a good job at the forum.

B. Nominations Update

Rhoda reported that the King County Executive has approved Joshua Freed's board appointment. His board appointment requires a confirmation by the King County Council.

C. Quality Council

Ron Sterling reported that the Quality Council has officially adopted its bylaws and is looking at the recovery ordinance. QC is focused on producing forums in conjunction with the King County NAMI groups. The forums aim to get feedback

from the communities regarding their service needs and to take a pulse on how the mental health system works for them.

V. STAFF REPORT – Jean Robertson

A. Policy and Procedures

The 2004 Policies and Procedures have been released. Contracts are based on the policies and procedures, such as how services are provided, etc.

B. MH Disaster Preparedness

FEMA awarded financial aid for flood victims in Skagit County.

A FEMA-funded Disaster Crisis Counseling Training was held the day of this meeting. Providers were invited to attend. Helen asked if training would be available for those unable to attend the December 9th training. Jean responded that if there is a significant number of requests for training, she would ask those who attended to share what they learned from the training.

C. Isolation and Quarantine Seminar

This seminar, sponsored by the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health, will be held on Monday, December 15, 2003. With a possibility of SARS cases this year, the training is to prepare the community in advance. MH service will be needed in an isolation/quarantine situation that extends beyond a few individuals.

D. Service Codes

For data consistency, the RSN is looking for alternative codes for codes that will no longer be allowed after January 1, 2004 and to insure collection of data on services being provided. Currently, each provider has its own coding practices but RSN would like to ensure that all services are plugged into the system and will be counted toward actuary rates.

The Data Service workgroup has an ongoing task of looking at appropriate service codes. The workgroup is doing a background work to maintain case rate next year.

King County and State only dollars used to serve non-Medicaid clients were slashed by the state. There is pressure to serve Medicaid recipients only.

E. State Medicaid Integration Project

The State Medicaid Integration project is designed to manage medical and behavioral health services for the Medicaid population and some dual Medicaid/

Medicare clients. This project was to be implemented in Snohomish, Pierce, and King County. A new RFP has been released to implement this project in Snohomish only. This RFP is for 6,000 persons. A Bidders' Conference was held yesterday. This will be under Managed Care model. Medicaid recipients are eligible for this project. However, individuals under 21 years of age are excluded. Jean will keep the board informed about the development of this project. If the Mental Health Board decides to engage in lobbying for this issue, Linda Brown recommended joining force with the King County Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Administrative Board in addressing this issue.

VI. MENTAL HEALTH REPORT CARD – Shelle Crosby

Copies of the MH Report Card were distributed. Shelle walked the board through the document. The Report Card was started in 1996 and since then minor changes have been made. Shelle stated that the document is public information to let the community know what is going on in the mental health system. The financial aspect of the report was to provide accountability to the public. The Executive Summary is a means for mental health to track what is important. The Executive Summary is updated from time to time as legislative issue changes.

Shelle said that she is open to suggestions to improve the document.

In 2004, the report card will be re-designed to reflect the kind of business mental health is currently engaged in. Shelle cautioned the board to read the title of the item in order to understand the information on each item. She also explained the level of care based on age groups.

VII. VOTE ON BOARD APPOINTMENT

Ron informed the board that Michael Haan could not be present at the meeting due to the death of his father. He announced that at the Executive Session held prior to the regular meeting this afternoon, the board unanimously voted to recommend the appointments of Melody Cecilia James and Michael Haan to the King County Mental Health Advisory Board.

VIII. VOTE ON BOARD BYLAWS

Joshua Freed made a motion and seconded by Helen Nilon to accept the changes made on the board bylaws. The motion was approved unanimously.

IX. RESULT OF REMOVAL HEARING

At the Executive Session this afternoon a vote was taken on Freda Monroe's removal and it resulted in a tie with 3 "yes" votes and 3 "no" votes.

The question was asked whether the board should continue to contact her. A motion was made and passed that a corrective action notice should be sent to Freda Monroe pursuant to the amended board bylaws.

X. LIAISON REPORTS

- **Eleanor Owen: Partnership Group**

Amnon Shoenfeld, MHCADSD Division Director, spoke on potential financial difficulties if formula is maintained. The Prevalence Study is pending. The 2004 contracts are out. There were 232 contracts awarded. Eleanor brought up her concern about the amount of time spent in this meeting in discussing infrastructure instead of discussing the actual activities, what agencies are doing, what their future plans are, and how they will do it. Jean said that the Partnership meeting is a business meeting and is meant to provide information to the agency providers.

- **Helen Nilon: Seattle Mental Health**

Helen reported that the Criminal Justice Initiative being implemented by Seattle Mental Health has received positive feedback in the community. The agency is holding holiday gatherings in all their facilities. Interviews for Manager position are being conducted. Cassandra Jackson is currently serving as Interim Manager. The agency had implemented Disaster Plan in the eastside when the area suffered from electrical failure due to the storm. With the flu season, severity of flu was noted.

- **Gwendolyn Williams: Therapeutic Health Services**

Gwen attended the Agency staff meeting on Capitol Hill. Internal issues were discussed. The agency is refurbishing their building. They are hurting for money but they are doing better compared with other agencies. Another source of revenue for the agency is private donations. The agency has increased clientele. They are opening another branch in Everett to provide methadone services. As a result, they are hiring staff.

- **Jim Nobles: Chronic Population Action Council (CPAC)**

Jim was unable to attend the last meeting. It was reported that issues discussed at the last CPAC meeting included a lawsuit from Marriott Hotel in connection with "wet" housing, faith-based housing initiatives, and an update on CJ Initiative.

XI. BOARD AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS/NEW BUSINESS

A. Meeting Content

Jack Fuller supported the comment made earlier by Eleanor on how meetings are currently conducted. He recalled that past Mental Health Advisory Board meetings were focused on mental health system issues and not on infrastructure. Eleanor recommended utilizing future Mental Health Advisory Board meetings on mental health system issues such as Report Card, or presentation of a work product.

Linda Brown shared how the King County Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Administrative Board conducts their meetings. The board features agency report in its monthly meeting. The agencies were provided with some guidelines and criteria for reporting. For 2003, each board meeting included 2 agency reports. They were each given 10 minutes for presentation and question-answer session. The agency presentations have given board members an insight to the services provided by each agency, the challenges they face and how they deal with them, their successes, and their future plans. Linda offered to work with MHAB chairperson or any board members on the mechanics of this process, if the board so desires.

B. Announcements

Helen Nilon: NAMI-Eastside is sponsoring a Ticket to Work forum on December 14th at 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. at the Overlake Educational Center in Bellevue.

Pam Pratt: The Asian Counseling and Referral Service (ACRS) has received a grant to help Asian Pacific Americans battling drug and alcohol addiction. ACRS is holding an informational meeting today from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at their facility located at 720 8th Avenue S., Suite 200 in Seattle. Another informational meeting will be conducted on December 17th at the same time, at the Crossroads Shopping Center, community room, 15600 NE 8th Street in Bellevue.

Eleanor Owen: The 2003 Washington Health Legislative Conference will be held on December 11, 2003 from 8:00am to 4:15pm at Sea-Tac Hilton Hotel. The theme of the conference is "Rebuilding Health Care with Patient in Mind."

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Prepared by:

Attested by:

Rhoda A. Naguit
Recording Secretary

Ron Sterling
Vice-Chair